

—next time the great valley of the Mississippi *will* be heard, and who but Douglas will tower then as now above all competitors in that noble region? Let Douglas, therefore, “suffer and be strong.”

I know you will be pleased with the platform. The nomination for President was made about two o'clock on Saturday, amid wild excitement; an adjournment then took place to 4, when the Vice President was nominated;¹⁷⁰ and then at about 5 we had the platform. It was read in a clear, loud voice by B. B. French,¹⁷¹ and when he came to the Slavery portion the hurrahs were tremendous and long-continued. That portion was called for again, again read, and then again we had the same end cries of gratification and Joy. Gen Saunders then moved the “previous question”—it was put and carried; and then the vote was taken on the Resolutions *en masse*. The ayes were “like the sound of many waters,” and there were eight or ten noes from among the Ohio Delegation, which occasioned general laughter. I write you this particularly, because efforts are being made by the freesoil and NY presses to produce the impression that the Resolutions were not adopted. These presses *know they are lying* in making these efforts.

I can now assure you, as a friend and as a lover of the Union and the rights of the States, that, so far as I could Judge—and I observed closely and heard a great deal—the *vast majority of the Democracy of the free States are sound upon the fugitive-slave law*. I talked with the New Hampshire, Connecticut, and Pennsylvania Delegates; and they assured me they were in favour of giving us *all* our Constitutional rights; and having fought down the Freesoilers at home, they *demand*ed as a measure of protection to themselves at home that the fugitive-slave laws should be endorsed.

I heard Soule¹⁷² and Wise.¹⁷³ The former is a most accomplished orator, and the latter is a genius and talks like a thunderstorm, when fully aroused.

¹⁷⁰Franklin Pierce for President, William R. King for Vice President.

¹⁷¹Benjamin B. French, of New Hampshire, clerk of the U.S. Congress, 1845-1849. *Biographical Directory of Congress*, 141-145.

¹⁷²Pierre Soule, (1801-1870), from New Orleans, lawyer; member of the U.S. Senate from Louisiana, 1847, 1849-1853; Minister to Spain, 1853-1855. *Biographical Directory of Congress*, 1,632.

¹⁷³Henry A. Wise (1806-1876), member of the U.S. Congress from Virginia, 1833-1844; Minister to Brazil, 1844-1847; Governor of Virginia, 1856-1860. *Biographical Directory of Congress*, 1,838.